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# CONSTITUTION *and* BY-LAWS

1945

## NATIONAL HOLINESS MISSIONARY SOCIETY

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Organized — 1910  
Incorporated — 1926

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**HEADQUARTERS**  
**733 North Parkside Avenue**  
**CHICAGO 44, ILLINOIS**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rev. G. Arnold Hodgin, D.D., President  
Rev. C. J. Pike, D.D., First Vice Pres.  
Rev. Anna L. Spann, Second Vice Pres.  
Rev. C. I. Armstrong, D.D., Third Vice Pres.  
Rev. George R. Warner, D.D., General Secretary  
Rev. Harry E. Jessop, D.D., Treasurer  
Rev. Charlotte V. Barnum, Superintendent of  
Prayer Bands

Rev. D. Willia Caffray  
Mr. W. W. Cary  
Rev. G. Arnold Clymer  
Rev. Merrill M. Coffin  
Rev. C. P. Hogle  
Mr. J. Kenneth Hutcherson, M.D.  
Rev. E. A. Keaton  
Mrs. A. L. Luce  
Rev. Anna E. McGhie  
Mr. Grover C. Oliver  
Rev. A. O. Quall  
Rev. W. A. Spring  
Rev. Iva D. Vennard, D.D.

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## ASSOCIATE COUNCIL

Rev. John L. Brasher, D.D.  
Prof. J. A. Huffman, D.D.  
Rev. A. L. Luttrull  
Rev. Warren C. McIntire, D.D.  
Rev. John Paul, D.D.  
Rev. Paul Rees, D.D.  
Rev. G. W. Ridout, D.D.  
Rev. Joseph H. Smith  
Mr. C. C. Valade  
Rev. C. Hoyt Watson, D.D.  
Rev. David E. Wilson, D.D.  
Rev. Peter Wiseman, D.D.

## PREAMBLE

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Under a deep sense of gratitude to God for the great salvation which has come to us through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Lord, and realizing the demand for our organized missionary efforts for the following reasons:

(1) The appalling spiritual need of the world and the necessity for converts to be led into the experience of holiness.

(2) An efficient means of reaching these converts with this message and experience is through an interdenominational channel.

(3) To provide an avenue for the gifts of those desiring to support interdenominational holiness missionary work.

(4) Our recognition of the fact that the Great Commission calls for world evangelism, and inasmuch as organization under a written constitution is, as we believe, both expeditious and unifying in carrying out our purpose both in the home and foreign field.

We adopt the following Constitution and By-Laws.

# CONSTITUTION

## Article 1

### Name

The name of this organization shall be National Holiness Missionary Society.

## Article 2

### Object

The object of this organization shall be to establish, maintain, and conduct interdenominational missions and missionary work in foreign lands, to spread scriptural holiness largely through a properly qualified national ministry. To this end departments of evangelistic, medical, educational, industrial, and such other forms of service as required may be developed, making all other forms subservient to the evangelistic emphasis.

## Article 3

### Membership

Membership shall be composed of members of missionary auxiliaries affiliated with the National Holiness Missionary Society, members of prayer bands which for a good reason are not affiliated with a missionary auxiliary, and such interested praying friends as are co-operating with us who

have signed our prayer band covenant but for good and sufficient reasons are not members of either a missionary auxiliary or prayer band.

#### **Article 4**

##### **Property**

This organization shall have the power to acquire by purchase, donation, devise, bequest, or otherwise, and to hold, use, and dispose of by sale, rent, lease, mortgage or otherwise all land or real estate of any character that may be necessary and proper for the carrying out of its legitimate business, and such as may be deemed practical and useful for the purpose or benefit of the organization. *All property shall be held in trust for the National Holiness Missionary Society, subject to rules of said organization.*

#### **Article 5**

##### **Management**

The management of this Society shall be vested in a Board of Directors having not less than twelve members and not more than twenty-one, seven of whom shall constitute a quorum.

The said members shall be elected by the Board of Directors of the Society and

ratified by the National Association for the Promotion of Holiness at its Annual Meeting, except the General Secretary and the Superintendent of Prayer Bands. One third of these shall be elected for a term of one year, one third for a term of two years, and one third for a term of three years, and one third elected annually thereafter for a term of three years. The work of the various lands shall be conducted by the Board of Directors.

By virtue of their offices, the General Secretary and the Superintendent of Prayer Bands (elected annually by the Board), shall be ex-officio members of the Board and of the Executive Committee.

The officers of the Board shall be a President, two or more Vice Presidents, a Superintendent of Prayer Bands, a General Secretary, and a Treasurer. The officers of the Board shall constitute the Executive Committee. This Committee shall transact all necessary business in the interim of the meetings of the Board and shall constitute the Committee on Candidates.

No new members shall be elected to the Board who have reached their seventieth birthday, and in no case shall any member serve beyond his seventy-fifth birthday. This regulation may be offset by a two-

thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall have power to elect a director to fill a vacancy, which director shall be in office until such time as his election is ratified by regular order.

## **Article 6**

### **Organization of the Work**

In the opening of a new field, there shall be a Superintendent for the work elected for a term of two years by the Board of Directors upon the nomination of the Candidate Committee. As the work develops and new missionaries are sent out, a Mission may be organized by them on the field. This Mission shall biennially elect its Superintendent, the election to be ratified by the Board of Directors. The charter membership of the Mission shall consist of the missionaries on the field at the time of its organization. New missionaries sent out by the Board of Directors may become members after a period of two years' service by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Mission. Should said missionaries prove unstable or unable to cope with the difficulties of the language or the climate, to harmonize with their brethren, to adapt themselves to the nationals, or have other-



wise shown themselves unsuitable, the Mission may either prolong their probation, or make the best arrangements to facilitate their retirement. All further details of organization may be worked out by the Mission as the needs of the work demand. The duties and privileges of the Mission are and continue to be :

(1) The appointment of workers on the field.

(2) The opening of work in new cities and stations.

(3) All details in the purchasing and repairing of property, provided the expense incurred does not exceed the appropriation of the Board of Directors for said purpose. All principles of work shall be thoroughly understood and agreed upon by the General Secretary and the Superintendent of the Mission before going into effect upon the field. The General Secretary and the Superintendent of the Mission shall be in close touch, by correspondence or otherwise, concerning every interest of the work.

## **Article 7**

### **Withdrawal and Dismissal**

In case any probationer or missionary severs his or her connection with a Mission



before the end of the fourth year of residence in the field, for the purpose of trade, for salaried employment, for marriage, or other reasons, he or she shall be required to refund in full any sum expended toward outfit and passage money.

Anyone leaving a Mission shall be required to transfer all Mission moneys or property in his charge into the hands of the Superintendent or person appointed to receive them. Should any occasion of sufficient gravity arise, a Mission shall have the power, by majority vote, of suspending or removing any member of the Mission, acting with all possible consideration and subject to the ratification of the Board of Directors.

## **Article 8**

### **Auxiliaries**

Provision is hereby made for the organization of State and Territorial Auxiliaries through the Superintendent of Prayer Bands. The Auxiliaries are to further the work of the Missionary Society, and it is desired that wherever possible they shall work in connection with the State and County Auxiliaries of the National Association for the Promotion of Holiness. The Auxiliaries shall be governed by the Con-

stitution and By-Laws for State Auxiliaries as approved by the National Holiness Missionary Society, and their actions may be subject to review by the Board of Directors. Missionary moneys coming to the Auxiliaries shall in due course be paid over to the Treasurer of the Board of Directors to be expended as specified; otherwise they shall be turned into the General Fund.

## **Article 9**

### **Representatives**

The Board of Directors shall send a representative to mission fields whenever deemed advisable, with the special view of promoting spiritual life and otherwise strengthening the work. The details of the work of such representative in countries where we have missions shall be arranged by the Superintendent of our Mission in that land.

## **Article 10**

### **Auditors**

(1) The books of the Treasurer of the Board of Directors shall be audited annually by an accountant approved by the Board of Directors.

(2) The books of the Treasurer of each

Auxiliary shall be audited each year by a committee appointed by the Auxiliary.

## **Article 11**

### **Change of Constitution**

Proposed changes in this constitution may be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, and if approved for adoption by the members of the Board present, the Secretary shall give one year's notice of the proposed changes in writing to all members of the Board. Questions relative to policy on our mission fields must be approved by a two-thirds vote of those on the mission fields. Such questions are to be sent to the Superintendents of Missions in their respective fields and be brought before the Missions for their ratification, a two-thirds vote being necessary for ratification. At the following Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, the proposed changes may be adopted and incorporated into the Constitution by a two-thirds vote of members present.

# BY-LAWS

## Article 1

### Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of eighteen elected members, not including the General Secretary and Superintendent of Prayer Bands.

Members elected to the Board of Directors at any Annual Meeting shall serve in regular order during the interim between the election and ratification by the National Association for the Promotion of Holiness.

## Article 2

### Duties of Officers

#### SECTION 1—PRESIDENT

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, to arrange in consultation with the Executive Committee for the Annual Board Meeting and all necessary plans for said meeting. Through the year he shall promote the interests of the work in every way. He shall sign all legal documents of the organization and perform such duties as usually pertain to this office.

## SECTION 2—VICE PRESIDENTS

It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to assist the President and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office.

## SECTION 3—GENERAL SECRETARY

It shall be the duty of the General Secretary to execute the work of the Missionary Society in the homeland, subject to the Board of Directors; to keep in close touch with the Superintendent of the work of each field; to publish leaflets and other literature; to represent the Society at camp meetings and conventions, and otherwise to keep the activities and needs of the Society before the people, soliciting their prayers and gifts, and in every right way to further the work of the Missionary Society. It shall further be the duty of the General Secretary to have the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee kept; to sign all legal documents; to give a comprehensive report of the Society in all lands to the National Association for the Promotion of Holiness at its regular Annual Meeting and also an annual report of his work to the Board of Directors. The General Secretary shall have

direction of the work of all employees of the Board.

#### SECTION 4—ASSISTANT SECRETARY

An Assistant Secretary may be appointed by the Board of Directors at their Annual Meeting.

#### SECTION 5—TREASURER

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to supervise the receiving and disbursing of all moneys for the Society, the paying of all obligations pertaining to the current expenses of the work of the Board, and the transmitting of all moneys sent to foreign lands, under direction of the Board of Directors. It shall be lawful for checks to be signed and countersigned by any two of the following three: Treasurer, General Secretary, and Assistant Secretary. The Treasurer shall render an annual financial statement to the Board of Directors.

#### SECTION 6—SUPERINTENDENT OF PRAYER BANDS

A Superintendent of Prayer Bands shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of this person to have general oversight of the Prayer Band work. It shall further be the duty of the

same person to organize missionary auxiliaries according to the constitution governing the same; and for any district where no auxiliary has been formed, the Superintendent may, if necessity arises, appoint local prayer band organizers.

### **Article 3**

#### **Term of Office**

The term of office for the officers of the Board of Directors shall be one year.

### **Article 4**

#### **Committees**

Committees may be appointed from time to time as need may arise.

### **Article 5**

#### **Duties of Committees**

##### **SECTION 1—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Executive Committee shall meet in the interim of the Annual Meetings of the Board of Directors. Four members shall constitute a quorum.

##### **SECTION 2—COMMITTEE ON CANDIDATES**

The Executive Committee shall consti-



tute the Committee on Candidates. It shall be the duty of this committee to give thorough consideration to the qualifications of each individual having been duly recommended and open to appointment for missionary work regarding:

- (1) Religious experience and call to the mission field
- (2) Soundness of doctrine
- (3) Church membership and membership in the Association
- (4) Educational equipment
- (5) Health
- (6) Any other essential requirement the field of work may demand.

## **Article 6**

### **Appointment of Trustees**

The Board of Directors at their Annual Meeting shall appoint Trustees as needed for our foreign fields. Vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled by the Executive Committee. Said Trustees shall have authority to handle all legal matters as required by the governments in their respective fields.

## **Article 7**

### **Associate Council**

There shall be an Associate Council of representative persons elected by the Board of Directors, a part of whom shall be elected each year for a term of three years, the number to be determined from year to year by the Board of Directors.

## **Article 8**

### **Young People's Missionary Crusaders**

Young People's Missionary Crusaders groups may be organized and hold organic relationship to the National Holiness Missionary Society. These groups shall be organized to stimulate missionary interest among our young people, to direct their missionary activities, and to study our mission fields and problems. Such groups shall elect their own officers and complete their own organization. The Board shall annually appoint a Sponsor for the movement. Applications for such relationship shall be made to the Sponsor.

## **Article 9**

### **Marriage of Missionaries**

No missionary shall contract marriage without the consent of the Board while in

its employ. Refusal to comply with the decision of the Board shall constitute grounds for dismissal.

### **Article 10**

#### **Conservative Standards**

It is to be expected that caution be exercised by our missionaries and workers in dress, appearance, and approach and that they preserve a modest and conservative standard.

### **Article 11**

#### **Ordination**

The President and General Secretary are authorized to ordain to the ministry in exceptional cases those who meet the qualifications of this Society as ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Article 12**

#### **Appropriations**

At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors the needs of the fields shall be thoroughly and prayerfully considered and appropriations made.

### **Article 13**

#### **Missionaries' Allowances**

The yearly allowance for missionaries shall be left with the Board of Directors

and adjusted as the needs of each field shall demand.

#### **Article 14**

##### **Furloughs**

Approximately one year in every seven shall be given the missionary as a furlough. The allowance shall be continued and it shall be understood that the missionary will fill engagements and represent the work of the Society, so far as his strength may permit, by the direction of the General Secretary.

#### **Article 15**

##### **Change of By-Laws**

These may be changed or added to by the Board of Directors at any Annual Meeting.

### **STATEMENT OF DOCTRINE**

Relative to the doctrine and experience of entire sanctification: Entire sanctification is that act of divine grace, through the baptism with the Holy Ghost, by which the heart is cleansed from all sin and filled with the pure love of God. It is a definite and instantaneous work wrought in the believer, through faith, subsequent to regeneration, and is attested by the Holy Ghost.

## NATIONAL HOLINESS MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Extending the interdenominational holiness movement to foreign mission fields by :

(1) Establishing interdenominational holiness centers,

(2) The training of national workers and evangelists, and

(3) General interdenominational field evangelism.

*The Society is interdenominational in its organization and activities, distinctively evangelistic in its methods, and definitely holiness in its doctrine.*

*We have hundreds of doors now open to us, thousands of souls already saved, and tens of thousands waiting for the message of full salvation.*

*We must enlarge our forces and march forward!*

*We need your help!*

Write for sample copy of our missionary magazine, *Call to Prayer*, and other free literature.

Address :

The General Secretary  
733 N. Parkside Avenue  
Chicago 44, Illinois